

# POLK COUNTY NEWS

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## OUR COUNTY AGENT'S DEPARTMENT

Some Timely Talks to Polk County Farmers, and others, on Timely Subjects, by County Agent, J. R. Sams.

### Polk County Farmers Federation.

What is it? What should it be? What will it be?  
As already stated, the Polk County Farmers Federation is a corporation organized under the corporation laws of North Carolina, enabling farmers to combine their capital for the purpose of working together in a business way, by which they can procure the necessary materials for producing their crops in a way that they can produce their crops at more reasonable figures, and then when produced; can cooperatively market the same at a saving which will enable them to serve the consuming public to greater advantage and at the same time enable the farmer to provide his family with the necessities of life, including their education, in a manner that will elevate his family to a higher standard of living which we hope will be the means of stimulating a home building and a home loving rural citizenship that will have greater solidarity and hope for the future of our country. Now it should be the instrument in the hands of farmers of the county to accomplish precisely what is above stated, and in order for it to do the work for which it was brought into existence.

The farmers of the county must as a business class, whose business interests are identical, come to the support of their corporation as one man and make it so. No man, however poor, should hang back and expect his neighbor to go forward and feather a nest in which he will sit complacently and reap rich rewards from the corporation when he has contributed nothing to aid in building it up and making it strong so that it will be able to serve all the people. Neither must the strong, well-to-do farmer grudgingly withhold his money and moral support for fear that he will do more than his share and help some farmers who are barely able to help themselves. But all, poor and rich alike should discuss the importance of giving their united support to this great work and make it the great success it should be. Now the last question is what will it be? Tell me the attitude the farmers will take toward the support of the corporation, and I'll tell what it will be. The corporation at this time is like a well bred draft colt. By proper development the colt becomes a strong draft horse, able to draw immense loads; but neglected and starved it will become a puny weakling and die. Wisdom and courage are the two great requisites to success. I have all confidence in the wisdom of the stockholders and of their directors to make it a success. The question is, do they possess the courage? That is for the future to determine. It will take hard cash and a good little sum to even get the corporation started to function. The stockholders wisely said to buy the warehouse site instead of leasing, even at a nominal rental. That meant more money; but it meant strength in the long run.

Now in conclusion let me call on every stockholder to not weaken. You never made a wiser investment in all your life. You did not invest the little sum for your own business security alone, but for your children and your

children's in the future. So let every stockholder take courage and pay up his stock and everyone induce a brother farmer to subscribe and help to make our Federation the greatest power in Polk county for agricultural development, which will mean prosperity for the farmer, for the banks and for every business man of every profession and calling. What it will be is up to the farmers of Polk county individually and collectively, so, as Lord Nelson said to the soldiers of England before the battle of Waterloo: "Today England expects every man to do his duty," and the result was that the English arms broke the power of Napoleon forever.

### Farm Bureau and Extension Service.

A great deal has been said recently concerning the relationships of the county agent to the Farm Bureau. Treasurer Charles E. Gunnels of the American Farm Bureau Federation, who has charge of such relationships for the farmers' organization, submits the following analysis: "The clink of dollars in a man's pocket gives him a degree of self-confidence and efficiency. Extension work in most counties was more or less in the position of a beggar until the formation of County Farm Bureaus or like associations with duly elected officers to handle local affairs. The coming of the state and American Farm Bureau Federations made universal the collection of membership dues and insured funds to finance the work. By far the greater share of these dues in all cases stays in the county to carry on work initiated in the county. By common consent among Farm Bureau members the county agent, home demonstration agent and the boys' and girls' club leader must be provided for before money is diverted to other purposes.

### A WORKING BASIS FOR EXTENSION WORK

"As the Farm Bureau furnishes a working basis for county extension work, so the improved methods of production, marketing, community development and administration of public affairs taught by the agricultural colleges and the U. S. Department of Agriculture through these extension workers are the foundation upon which the whole structure of the Farm Bureau is built. "The Farm Bureau and extension work are complements to each other. It is impossible to think of the one without the other. The Farm Bureau was created a non-secret, non-sectarian organization for the purpose of carrying on co-operative demonstrations in agriculture and home economics through the employment of county agents, home demonstration agents and boys' and girls' club leaders. The Farm Bureau, or similar organization, is recognized everywhere as the best means of promoting this type of teaching. Extension workers are a part of the faculty of the state college of agriculture. To that extent their services are available and belong to the whole people of the state. But a college professor carries on his work in an organized way for the sake of efficiency. And the Farm Bureau is the most efficient organization yet developed for this purpose.

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## THE TRYON HAND WEAVERS

One of Tryon's Industries Whose Product Will Do Much Toward Making Tryon Known Wherever the Better Class of Cotton Dress Goods are Worn.

The Tryon Hand Weaving industries started with the Tryon Toy Makers in the year 1919. This industry was started with one hand-made loom. The first thread that was woven was purchased at Marshall, N. C., and brought to Tryon in a small lot and mercerized at the Southern Mercerizing plant; and spooled on a hand-made spooler, something similar to the old type of spinning wheel. This thread was warped and woven in curtain material designed by Mrs. Vance and Miss Yale and several curtains with different borders and stripes were made which sold very readily. It was learned that the public wanted wearing material also, consequently a heavier grade of thread was purchased at Fingerville, S. C., and mercerized and colored to several different shades which was found to be very desirable; and sold so readily that enlargement of the plant was found to be necessary, making it about three times as large as the original

plant.  
The business is now conducted by the Tryon Hand Weavers, F. P. Bacon president, and is operated in the building formerly occupied by the Southern Mercerizing Company, where there is ample room for enlargement. Seven looms are now operated and the company is planning the addition of several more and this will mean the employment of more labor.  
Only the very best mercerized cotton thread is used by this concern, and the weavers are being trained to weave only nicest and most perfect hand-woven goods that is produced by any hand-woven industry. Only the best and most permanent dyes are used and this concern is turning out a line of the most beautiful fabrics it has been our pleasure to see. A visit to this factory is interesting and instructive.  
Womens' Wear, of New York, in speaking of the product of this concern says:

(From Women's Wear, New York City, October 5th, 1921.)

## COTTON GOODS

Hand-Woven Cotton Fabrics, Made in Mountains of North Carolina of Exceptional Interest

The hand-woven cotton fabrics of Tryon, N. C. will be found of exceptional interest to the trade. These goods, "made in the mountains of North Carolina," by the Tryon Hand Weavers, represent a type of cloth that is not common. The goods are made of very fine long staple cotton, as silky as silk itself, with plied and single yarns, mercerized and in a range of weights. An attractive range of colors is offered, the cloths being shown in plain shades, sports stripes and in corded effects, particularly suitable for sports suits and skirts, as well as for curtains, draperies, upholstery, etc.

Discussing the development of this interesting industry F. P. Bacon, president of the Tryon Hand Weavers, states: "This hand weaving was started here by Mrs. E. P. Vance and Miss C. L. Yale, who learned the art of weaving in Scotland. Several years ago, they came to Biltmore, N. C., and started this work on the estate of George W. Vanderbilt, mainly for the purpose of educating industrially the moun-

tain people of Western North Carolina. At that time they did this work in woollens only. Since they left Biltmore, the Biltmore Industries have been taken over by Mr. Seeley, of the Grove Park Inn, Asheville, N. C.; and has developed into a large business. "In Tryon, the two ladies worked along the same lines, but in the hand weaving of cotton. This cotton is grown, spun and mercerized in the South. Our little establishment here consists of looms made by hand and all of the work is done by hand. We also do our dyeing here. The mercerizing is done by the Southern Mercerizing Co., here. We have had this hand-woven material very much admired by the tourists visiting our town and have been so encouraged that we are now looking for a larger outlet. The material retails for \$3 a yard."

The Tryon Hand Weavers are interested in communicating with concerns who might buy their product or sell same on a commission basis.

The Tryon Board of Trade will hold its regular meeting in Missildine Hall on Wednesday night Nov. 2nd at eight o'clock.

Never in the history of Tryon have the business men taken the interest in the general welfare of the town as is now being shown. At the last meeting three fourths of the entire membership were present. New members have joined and more are expected to join. Let every body come out next Wednesday night.

## FROM OUR FRIENDS IN THE COUNTRY

Items of Interest Gathered From Various Sections of Polk County by Our Corps of Faithful Correspondents.

### Tryon Route 1.

Off to the mountains, with some of us, to enjoy the delicious ease that nature has provided and to view the unending charms of mother nature's wonders and for a day's rest and recreation.

The M. E. church at Mill Spring will give a Sunday school picnic Saturday Oct. 29th, to those who wish to go, a hike to the mountains.

Miss Bessie Hamilton goes to Green's Creek High school, to take up the choice work of her highest ideal, with the help of the Holy Spirit she dedicates her whole life and its energy to the betterment of the primary children under her care.

Misses Q. V. Cathey Searl and Clara Edwards and Frank Edwards spent Saturday night at the home of E. H. Edwards.

The people on this route seem to take advantage of the most beautiful weather bringing in the harvest, some with old time husking, bees and bounteous suppers while others are falling in line with Mr. Sams ideas, needless to mention what they are, for the News readers already know.

### Lynn

I thought by taking a 3 weeks vacation I would be able to have a lot of news but its too dry.

The Census Taker will be at the Lynn school house next Saturday night Oct. 29th, for the purpose to open a Box of Monkeys. If you Cant Laugh don't come. Admission for adults 25c children 15c.

Mrs. Turner at piano Miss Parker with violin; R. B. Cannon with cornet aided very much last Sunday to the congregational singing at Dr. Pratt's services.

Mrs. Louis W. Preston and father; Mr. Warrington of Tryon were invited guests at the teachers dormitory last Saturday evening. Mrs. Parker served dinner and a very pleasant time was enjoyed by all.

Geo. H. Bradley and family, T. Dewitt Cannon and wife all motored up from Spartanburg last Sunday morning returning in evening.

Mrs. Bertha Underwood and little daughter, Agnes visited relatives in Columbus last week-end.

T. W. Cannon and Grey Thompson spent the day with friends in Saluda last Sunday.

Deputy Marshall Swann spent last week-end with his family. William Swann of Norfolk, Va., visited his uncle, David H. Swann a few days ago.

Miss Alta Ballard is staying with a sick relative at the Oteen Hospital at Asheville.

Mr. Fish Top what about your water supply hope Green River will not dry up but I understand its way below normal guess its low enough that the "Devils Track" is visible.

The Jackson family who moved to Tryon some time ago returned to their home in Lynn.

C. C. Hampton of Hendersonville, N. C., was in Lynn one day this week.

The Columbus people have been raising "Sand" in Lynn hadling it to Columbus to build with.

Jud Tunkins.  
"The trouble with a smart man," said Jud Tunkins, "is that he's liable to spend more time showin' off than he does workin'."

### Mill Spring.

A party including J. R. Foster and wife, Bob Foster, Mrs. W. L. Brisco, Horace Brisco, and Furman Smith motored to Landrum, S. C., Sunday; the guests of R. M. Foster and wife.

The Bethlehem Sunday school will give a picnic Saturday the 29th. Everybody is cordially invited to come with well filled baskets and help make the day a great success.

The school is settling down to routine business. The pupils are working hard on a lot which they are preparing for a basket ball ground and hope to be ready to play in a short time.

The Community Club held its regular meeting Wednesday evening Oct. 26th.

Rev. J. W. Hackney returned from High Point Wednesday, where he has been attending Conference for the past week. He will preach Sunday morning at 11:00 a. m. at Bethlehem.

"Stunt night" will be given by the school November 4th. at the school building. If you wish to laugh and grow fat come out Friday evening and enjoy the fun. A small admission of ten cents will be charged.

### A Tryon Theatre.

The Community Theatre in small cities and villages is becoming a nation-wide idea. Ypsilanti, Michigan, has had one for seven years, and now is an institution. Tradesmen, carpenters, barbers, take as keen interest in it, and give it as hearty support as teachers, club women and professional men. Two or three one-act plays are given at each performance and one or more performances each week of a five months' season. Any community can do it, its leader says, for its talent, he says, was not ready-made, but has been developed out of ordinary people, to be found in every town. This has been found true not only of the acting, but of stage fittings, costumes, lighting and other features.

Tryon has for long and many times proved that it has the resources and capacities for such an institution. More than twenty years ago it had a theatre, a house on the site of Mrs. LeCount's on Melrose Avenue, converted into a play-house where plays were enacted with excellent talent and management, but the owner, Mrs. Dow, finally felt compelled to reconvert it into property yielding more revenue to meet taxes and insurance. Since then at various times, in the school auditorium there have been performances under the management and direction of J. Foster Searles, Miss Lois Wilcox, Miss Putnam and the late Mrs. Wynne which were far above amateur, and at times reached professional art and skill.

It needs only leadership and cooperation to make it permanent, regular and dependable, instead of casual and spasmodic as it has been heretofore. E. G. H.

### Marriage of Ex-Tryonites.

A Detroit paper says: "The marriage of Mrs. Vita Campeau Kirschner, to Mr. Arthur W. Jarvis of Montreal, took place at the residence of her mother, Mrs. Waldemar E. Kilpin last Saturday morning (Oct. 15.)